

January 31, 2022

Advisory Commission Clean Water and Natural Lands Fund 530 South King Street, Room 208 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Regarding: Conservation Easement Administrative Holder Acknowledgement 3.497-Acre Ridge Parcel Located at Kuli'ou'ou, O'ahu

## Aloha Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide supplemental information to strengthen the success of the acquisition of the 3.497-acre parcel for Kupaʻāina o Kuliʻouʻou (Kupaʻāina). Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center (MFHC) convened our Board of Directors on Thursday, January 27, 2022. The Board has agreed to serve as the Conservation Easement (CE) Administrative Holder.

MFHC's track record dates back to 2007, with extensive experience in conservation stewardship efforts in Kuli'ou'ou and East Honolulu. Successful projects we have supported with acquisition, preservation and stewardship include Hāwea Heiau, Wailupe Valley, Kānewai Spring and Kalauha'iha'i Fishpond. The addition of MFHC as CE Administrative Holder will provide synergy with the existing conservation efforts of the Kuli'ou'ou watershed from mauka to makai. MFHC recognizes the benefit in assisting Kupa'āina with their protection and stewardship of the mauka watershed areas and would be honored to serve as the CE Administrative Holder.

As the CE Administrative Holder, we anticipate that we will provide monitoring and oversight to ensure compliance with the CE requirements. We will also provide required reports to the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Land Management regarding Kupa'āina's compliance to the terms of the Conservation Easement. MFHC will be working with Kupa'āina to draft the agreement for the terms of MFHC's role as CE Administrative Holder.

MFHC has previously produced successful Management Plans as well as an Environmental Assessment for conservation projects in the region. MFHC plans to provide consultation to Kupaʻāina o Kuliʻouʻou as they develop their Management Plan. MFHC will also provide oversight to assist Kupaʻāina in their preparation of these documents. We understand Kupaʻāina plans to provide supplemental information for their initial plan to the City and County of Honolulu by Wednesday, February 2, 2022.

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Mahalo for the opportunity to assist Kupa'āina with the longterm success and stewardship of the Conservation Easement. Please feel free to contact me if anything else is needed.

Respectfully,

## Chris Cramer

Chris Cramer

**Executive Director** 

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